

Eldridge, Iowa  
August 22, 1950

Miss Agnes Buskirk, Librarian  
Woodbury County Library  
Menville, Iowa

Dear Miss Buskirk:

First of all: WELCOME TO THE FOLD! It's certainly good to know there's another similar fish in action in Iowa - I haven't quite figured out how fish get into a fold, either, but I hope you get the general idea.

Miss Butler writes that you have asked her to inquire about what we are paying our driver and clerical worker. Our driver's salary is \$3000. Sounds pretty high, I know, but the man has had three years' experience as a driver and clerk on a 3 county demonstration in Illinois, in addition to which he's one of the handiest handy men one could hope to run onto. He did a lot of our remodelling here and all of the painting, sanding and finishing of the floor. I hope you can find as talented a person. True, we were without him for 6 weeks because of a major operation, but he's back, and believe me he's worth every nickel we pay him! He also does our janitor work, and he's so neat, it almost hurts - almost, I say! Our clerical worker we are paying \$1800. That I think is high, but the library board is an enlightened group of people and feels that employees will be happier, stay longer, and do better work if well-paid. I agree; but we also have to keep in line with others in our field. However, we do have the problem of location with which to contend. Eldridge is not the most desirable place in the state to live.

We progress. We have one station open at one end of the county, and they're apparently doing a land-office business. We're taking books out to another at the other end of the county this week, so it will be going next week. A third will be opening about the time school starts. We've been circulating books only since the middle of May. Those first few months were hectic, but we survived, yea, even flurished. It's still hectic, and I suppose when it no longer is so, I'll miss it; but I'm hoping for the chance to miss it!

I hope I will see you at Waterloo in October; you will be there, won't you? And if I can be of any help in the mean time, I'll be glad to try; just let me know. Very best wishes to you and the Woodbury County Library!

Sincerely,

Elizabeth B. Hage  
Librarian  
Scott County Library



WOODBURY COUNTY LIBRARY

MOVILE, IOWA

August 25, 1950

Miss Elizabeth B. Hage, Librarian  
Scott County Library  
Eldridge, Iowa

Dear Miss Hage;

Thank you for your letter and note. After Miss Butler had said that she would write to you asking your salary scale for assistants, I thought perhaps it was too bad to bother you, as we just can't do nearly as well as you. I understand that our budget is smaller and we are starting from scratch."

I plan to have only two full-time assistants. We will have a clerk to act as clerk and general assistant, and man as clerk-driver. Expect that the girl will be a recent High School graduate, who is willing to do any kind of work, including go on Bookmobile when necessary.

As for the clerk-driver I know that he is going to be hard to find; as we do need a good driver, with good appearance and personality plus some education. In fact we need someone like you have, who can do almost anything. Have suggested the salary which is given to G.I.'s "On the job Training". We used

WOODBURY COUNTY LIBRARY

MOVILLE, IOWA

this in Missouri but I have been unable to contact the authorities here.

Perhaps you know that when I arrived here I found out that the Library Board had already ordered a two-ton Bookmobile and was having a building constructed to seat, which will prove to be far too small.

As for the Library Board I have met only three of the nine members. The President called a meeting last week and those three, only came. They are going to try to meet again on September 6<sup>th</sup> and can only hope that enough may come so that they can do some business.

I am anxious to meet you and to hear your talk at Watseles, also understand a member of your Library Board will talk. Would like to have some of the Woodbury County Library Board present as I believe that he could give them a great deal of help.

Sincerely,

Agnes J. Busch